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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,376	06/24/2003	Hui-Kai Chou	JCLA11125	4735
23900	7590	01/30/2006	EXAMINER	
JC PATENTS, INC.				PAYNE, SHARON E
4 VENTURE, SUITE 250				
IRVINE, CA 92618				
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2875		

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

3/1

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/606,376	CHOU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Sharon E. Payne	2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 November 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 13-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 13-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Park (U.S. Patent 6,050,704).

Regarding claim 13, Park discloses a frame having a middle region (reference numbers 33 and 34), at least two U-shaped lamp tubes (reference numbers 31a and 31b) disposed inside the frame (Fig. 3), wherein the two adjacent U-shaped lamp tubes are respectively positioned at two sides of the frame (Fig. 3) and each of the U-shaped lamp tubes does not cross the middle region of the frame (Fig. 3), and the corners of the two U-shaped lamp tubes are aligned and adjacent (Fig. 3, see portions of lamp with the electrodes) and a diffusion plate (reference number 35) inside the frame (reference numbers 33 and 34) above the lamp tubes (Fig. 3).

Concerning claim 15, Park discloses the electrodes of the U-shaped lamp tube inside each lamp tube module face one of the side edges of the frame (Fig. 3, see the electrodes on the right).

3. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Amano (JP 404033202A).

Regarding claim 16, Amano discloses a frame having a middle region (Fig. 1, bottom), at least two U-shaped lamp tubes (reference numbers 3c and 3b) disposed inside the frame (Fig. 2), wherein the two U-shaped lamp tubes are respectively positioned at two sides of the frame

(Fig. 2) and each of the U-shaped lamp tubes does not cross the middle region of the frame (Fig. 2), and electrodes of the two U-shaped lamp tubes (reference numbers 3c and 3b) are at the middle region of the frame (Figs. 1 and 2) and face the bottom section of the frame underneath the lamp tubes (Fig. 1) and a diffusion plate (reference number 15) positioned inside the frame above the lamp tubes (Fig. 3).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park in view of Amano.

Regarding claim 14, Park does not disclose the electrodes facing the bottom of the frame. Amano discloses the electrodes of the U-shaped lamp tube inside each lamp tube module facing the bottom section of the frame just underneath the lamp tubes (Figs. 1 and 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Amano in the apparatus of Park to enable one to use a dense arrangement of lamps, thus producing a more concentrated light. See the English abstract of Amano.

***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments filed 18 November 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Applicant argues that the amendments to the claims, essentially changing the term "center" to "middle region" make the claims allowable over Park and Amano. However, the Applicants amendments change the wording of the claims without changing the meanings of the claims. The lamp tubes do not cross a middle region into the other side in either Parks (Fig. 3) or Amano (Figs. 1 and 2), and the electrodes are on the middle region of one side in Amano. (Nothing in the claim requires that it be in the geometric center of the frame.) Since meaning of the claims essentially remained the same, the rejections stand.

***Conclusion***

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharon E. Payne whose telephone number is (571) 272-2379. The examiner can normally be reached on regular business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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